



Attorney Docket No. 29914-701.403
PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor: Mark A. Reiley

Serial Number: 10/658,499

Filing Date: September 9, 2003

Title: Facet Arthroplasty Devices and Methods

Group Art Unit: 3738

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

CONFIRMATION NO: 1797

Certificate of Mailing or Transmission
37 CFR §1.8

I hereby certify that this paper is being: ☒ deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail and addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria VA 22313-1450; or ☐ transmitted by facsimile to the Patent and Trademark Office in accordance with §1.6(d) to facsimile number on 8/22/05. Abigail Cruz

Signature

Commissioner of Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97

Sir:

Applicant hereby submits an Information Disclosure Statement along with attached form(s) PTO/SB/08A. A copy of each listed publication is being submitted, if required, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§1.97-1.98, as indicated below.

Applicant respectfully requests that the listed information be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the above-identified application. Applicants further request that the Examiner initial and return the attached form(s) PTO/SB/08 in accordance with MPEP §609.

Applicant reserves the right to establish the patentability of the claimed invention over any of the information provided herewith, and/or to prove that this information may not be prior art, and/or to prove that this information may not be enabling for the teachings purportedly offered.

This statement is not intended to represent that a search has been made or that the information cited in the statement is, or is considered to be, prior art or material to patentability as defined in §1.56.

☒ 37 CFR §1.97(b). This Information Disclosure Statement should be considered by the Office because:

- ☐ (1) It is being filed within 3 months of the application filing date of a national application and is other than a continued prosecution application under §1.53(d);
-- OR --
- ☐ (2) It is being filed within 3 months of entry of a national stage as set forth in §1.491 in an international application;
-- OR --
- ☒ (3) It is being filed before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits;
-- OR --
- ☐ (4) It is being filed before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under §1.114.

☐ 37 CFR §1.97(c). Although this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the period specified in 37 CFR §1.97(b), above, it is filed before the mailing date of the earlier of (1) a final office action under §1.113, (2) a notice of allowance under §1.311, or (3) an action that otherwise closes prosecution on the merits, this Information Disclosure Statement should be considered because it is accompanied by one of:

- ☐ a certification as specified in §1.97(e) provided concurrently herewith;
-- OR --
- ☐ a fee of \$180.00 as set forth in §1.17(p) authorized below, enclosed, or included with the payment of other papers filed together with this statement.

☐ 37 CFR §1.97(d). Although this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the mailing date of the earlier of (1) a final office action under §1.113 or (2) a notice of allowance under §1.311, it is being filed before payment of the issue fee and should be considered because it is accompanied by:

- A. a certification as specified in §1.97(e); and
- B. a fee of \$180.00 as set forth in §1.17(p) is authorized below, enclosed, or included with the payment of other papers filed together with this Statement.

☐ 37 CFR §1.97(e). A certification signed by an Attorney of Record is provided herewith as required under 37 CFR §§1.97(b) and (c).

☒ 37 CFR §1.98(a)(2). The content of the Information Disclosure Statement is as follows:

- ☐ Copies of each of the references listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08A are enclosed herewith.
-- OR --
- ☒ Copies of U.S. Patent Documents (issued patents and patent publications) listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08A are NOT enclosed.
-- AND/OR --
- ☒ Copies of Foreign Patent Documents and/or Non Patent Literature Documents listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08A are enclosed in accordance with 37 CFR §1.98(a)(2).
-- AND/OR --
- ☐ Copies of pending unpublished U.S. patent applications are enclosed in accordance with 37 CFR §1.98(a)(2)(iii).

- ☐ 37 CFR §1.98(a)(3). The Information Disclosure Statement includes non-English patents and/or references.
- ☐ Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.98(a)(3)(i), a concise explanation of the relevance of each patent, publication or other information provided that is not in English is provided herewith.
- ☐ Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.98(a)(3)(ii), a copy of a translation of the non-English language reference(s) is provided herewith
- ☐ Attached are copies of search report(s) from corresponding patent application(s), submitted in accordance with MPEP 609 D in support of the attached certification under 37 CFR §1.97(e)(1).
- ☒ *Fee Authorization.* The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the above-referenced fees of \$0.00 and charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment associated with this communication to Deposit Account No. 23-2415 (Docket No. 29914-701.403).

Respectfully submitted,

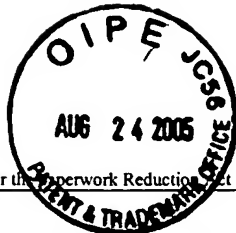
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PTO/SB/08A (07-05)

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| Substitute for form 1449/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use as many sheets as necessary) | | | | Complete if Known | |
| | | | | Application Number | 10/658,499 |
| | | | | Filing Date | September 9, 2003 |
| | | | | First Named Inventor | Mark A. Reiley |
| | | | | Art Unit | 3738 |
| Examiner Name | Not Yet Assigned | | | | |
| Sheet | 1 | of | 1 | Attorney Docket Number | 29914-701.403 |

| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | |
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| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Document Number | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear |
| | | Number-Kind Code ² (if known) | | | |
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| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Foreign Patent Document | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear |
| | | Country Code ³ - Number ⁴ - Kind Code ⁵ (if known) | | | |
| | | WO 2004/103227 | 12-02-2004 | Archus Orthopedics, Inc. | |
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|--------------------|-----------------|
| Examiner Signature | Date Considered |
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.
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This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.
If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.